

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the final Office Action dated April 18, 2008. Claims 1 to 3 and 7 to 17 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1 and 7 are in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 10, 11 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,267,517 (Noda). Claims 3 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Noda in view of well-known prior art. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns creating a single print job for a banner by combining a plurality of print jobs. To do so, an apparatus in accordance with the present invention generates new banner print data, which is different from each banner print data included in a plurality of print jobs, and newly generates a single print job including combination print data and the new banner print data, where the combination print data is generated by combining each print data included in a plurality of print jobs.

Turning now to the claims, Claim 1 is directed to a method of controlling printing in an information processing apparatus communicating with a printing apparatus. The method comprises a first generation step of generating combination print data by combining each print data included in a plurality of print jobs, the plurality of print jobs including print data for printing pages of a document and banner print data for banner printing, respectively, a second generation step of generating new banner print data, which is different from each banner print data included in the plurality of print jobs, for the combination print data generated in the first generation step and a third generation step of

newly generating a single print job including the combination print data generated in the first generation step and the new banner print data generated in the second generation step.

Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference, namely Noda, fails to disclose or suggest all of the features of the method of Claim 1. In particular, the cited reference fails to disclose or suggest at least the features of generating combination print data by combining each print data included in a plurality of print jobs, the plurality of print jobs including print data for printing pages of a document and banner print data for banner printing, respectively, generating new banner print data, which is different from each banner print data included in the plurality of print jobs, for the combination print data and newly generating a single print job including the combination print data and the new banner print data.

In contrast, Noda discloses printing a separating page using present user information of received print job in a case where the present user information is different from previous user information of received print job, or the present user information is the same as the previous user information of received print job and a time passed from the previous printing is longer than a designated time. That is, Noda discloses printing a banner page by using user information (corresponding to banner print data as featured in Claim 1) included in a present print job received newly. Therefore, Noda does not disclose or suggest generating new banner print data, which is different from each banner print data included in a plurality of print jobs.

Furthermore, Noda does not disclose or suggest newly generating a single print job including combination print data and the new banner print data, as the claimed invention.

In light of the deficiencies of Noda as discussed above, Applicant submits that amended independent Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claim 7 is directed to an apparatus substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 7 is also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each dependent claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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